

SINCE 1991, THE MISSION OF LEADERSHIP PASCO is to identify and recruit current or potential leaders of Pasco County, facilitate the development and interaction of those leaders, and to foster an issues-oriented learning environment for these leaders and the citizens of Pasco County in order to encourage an exchange of ideas and generate enthusiasm for community growth and development.

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President's Message



This past quarter was busy for Leadership Pasco. The class started off January with their two-day overnight experience known as SIMSOC, followed up by Education Day in February, and then Business & Industry Day in March. The class participation has been great, and the feedback comments have been very positive.

I would like to thank all of our sponsors, and volunteers for helping out with each program day. Without the financial support, and volunteerism we have been so blessed to receive our organization would not be as successful as it is. In our last newsletter one of our sponsors was mistakenly left out, so I would like to give a special thanks to **Gulfside Hospice & Pasco Palliative Care** for their generous support for Healthcare Day.

In March, Leadership Tampa Bay orchestrated a major event, which included an open invitation to all the Bay Area's leadership groups. The event was hosted by, and would not have been possible without the support of, the Tampa Bay Rays. The overwhelming reception and attendance are great indicators for the collaboration opportunities between these organizations and the unfaltering support of the Tampa Bay Rays.

I would like to congratulate Youth Leadership Pasco 2015 as they concluded their program, and graduated this past March. The program was once again a huge success, thanks in part to the great team of Mr. Rob Aguis, Mrs. Barbara De Simone, and Mrs. Doreen Packard. Great work!

The Adult class graduation will be May 28, 2015 at Heritage Springs Country Club at 5:30 p.m. It is exciting to see that this is our 25th year class, and our biggest class at 40 students. Reminders for the class graduation will be sent out soon so look for the invites in your email.

Our recruitment committee is now taking applications for next year's class. If there is anyone you know that can benefit from participating in our program, please direct them to our website to sign up. The deadline is June 1.

Tom Celotto

Youth Leadership Pasco 2015

Rob Aguis (Class of 2001)

Barbara DeSimone (Class of 1996)

This year's Youth Leadership Pasco Class was amazing! The class was a collection of vibrant, energetic high school sophomores and juniors that represented fifteen schools, Genesis, Bishop McLaughlin, Anclote, Hudson, River Ridge, Fivay, Mitchell, Sunlake, Ridgewood, Wesley Chapel, Wiregrass, Land O' Lakes, Pasco, and PACE. The first class began in October at the YMCA under the leadership of Barbara DeSimone, Tom Celotto and Rob Aguis. Students were oriented to the five sessions designed to pique their interest, inform students of available resources in Pasco County, help build a sense of community, confidence and self-esteem, establish their own networking system and help students discover and realize their talents and skills as a leader. From that very first session at the YMCA the 35 students forged a bond that lasted throughout the year. In their words, "they felt like a family."

Students really enjoyed the information garnered from Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Day. They were excited to meet and talk with Sheriff Nocco. The tour of the jail in Land O' Lakes and related activities really helped students realize the impact and the importance of the criminal justice system here in Pasco County and the occupations within that agency. Government/Social Services and Health Care Day allowed students to participate in budgeting and decision-making activities, explore the hospital, including the ER and the careers at Regional Medical Center at Bayonet Point. Economic Development/Business and Media Day tied together the relevance of what students learn in school and how these entities play an important role in the development of our local economy. Students were interested in the Smart Start Incubator and the tour of Bay News 9. Education and Career Development Day enhanced and affirmed students understanding of the importance of education and career planning. During lunch the students had an open dialogue with Superintendent Kurt Browning and shared experiences about classes and their schools.

On March 5, 2015, the class celebrated with a graduation at Heritage Springs Country Club. Students shared their experiences with many board members, alumni, school leaders, friends and family. It was the largest crowd yet! A special thank you was extended to the following sponsors; the Leadership Pasco Executive Board, Marchman Technical College, Pasco County Sheriff's Office, Pasco Economic Development Council, Pasco Education Foundation, Regional Medical Center at Bayonet Point, Marchman's Digital Cinema Production Program, and the Rotary Clubs of 6950. Students also recognized their school leaders and parents for their support throughout the year and the many businesses that hosted tours and presentations as part of their learning experiences. A special thank you to Tom Celotto and Doreen Packard who volunteered their time each month to support the Youth Leadership Pasco class of 2015.

VOICES OF LEADERSHIP

Carla Armstrong

Class of 2014

"Class of 1-4, focused to do more!"

Director of Philanthropy, Gulfside Hospice & Pasco Palliative Care



By the time I joined Leadership Pasco as part of the Class of 2014, I had lived in Pasco County for 11 years but I had only worked in it for two years. This meant I still had a lot to learn about the community I'd called home for so long and I needed to do it quickly. I already knew first-hand the value of leadership programs (as Leadership Tampa alumni) and so I knew that Leadership Pasco was the best way to learn more about Pasco County and collaborate with other civic-minded leaders to make an impact.

Being a part of Leadership Pasco was a fantastic experience, on so many levels! It opened my eyes to both the challenges our community faces as well as the exciting opportunities just around the corner. The bus tour took our class to parts of the county I didn't even know existed and each program day reinforced my belief that Pasco County is quickly evolving into a community where you can live, work AND play.

However, the best parts of Leadership Pasco are the people. Communities don't build themselves – they grow from the vision and action of people who care and want to make a difference. Our class was large and diverse in many ways, but we were all united by a common interest in learning more about Pasco and making a positive impact on its future. By connecting through Leadership Pasco, we developed stronger relationships and close friendships that are priceless.

Through Leadership Pasco, class members and alumni do so much. They help businesses grow, they support local non-profits and they give voice and leadership to our government's vision. I'm proud to be an active Leadership Pasco Alumni member and honored to serve on its board.



Education Day

Terry Aunchman (Class of 2010)

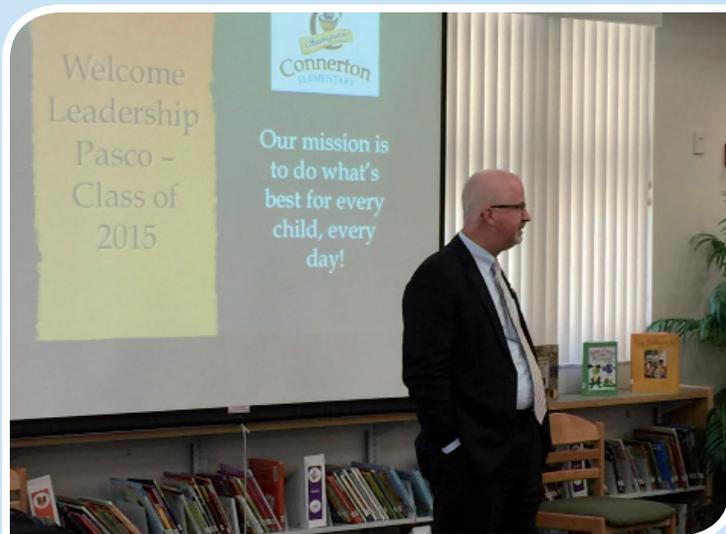
In February, the Leadership Pasco Class of 2015 participated in Education Day, and the class was introduced to many facets of our communities vast educational opportunities. The day began at Sunlake High School where the group was greeted by Steve Williams, Principal and his staff who highlighted Sunlake's many initiatives. Following Sunlake, the class caravanned to Connerton Elementary School to be greeted by Aimee Boltze, Principal and Superintendent Kurt Browning. Superintendent Browning spoke about the district's vision and emerging educational topics at the local, state and federal level. Just a short ride from Connerton Elementary the class was treated to a delicious lunch held at the Academy of Culinary Arts at Land O' Lakes High School which was prepared by the students. The final stop of the day was at Pasco Hernando State College, Dr. Stan Giannet, Provost, was a great host in sharing interesting facts about the college and providing a tour of the campus.

Here are just a few quotes from the Class of 2015 as they reflected on Education day:

"The tours of the facilities were very impressive, I really appreciated seeing the classes in action, from first grade to high school. Thank you for the opportunity."

"Understanding how our educational system prepares young and virtually anyone for a career."

"I'm so impressed with all the programs going on in Pasco County to prepare students for the future. Enlightening!"



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Seeking 2016 Sponsors

Education Day

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Business and Industry Day

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Save These Dates

Class Sponsored Alumni Mixer — May 13, 2015

Graduation Banquet — May 28, 2015

Leadership Pasco Class of 2016 Application (Deadline) - June 1, 2015

Vital Leadership Pasco Programs Need Your Sponsorship.

www.LeadershipPasco.com/Sponsorship

Alumni dues can be paid at www.LeadershipPasco.com

Benefits of Leadership Pasco Alumni Membership

Full access to the membership directory online
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Free invite to the Orientation banquet reception
VIP Access to annual Taste of Pasco event
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